



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## **Seattle man sentenced to 3 years in prison for possession of child pornography** *ICE agents found man had hundreds of graphic images on his computer*

SEATTLE – Seattle resident Christopher James Bowling was sentenced today to three years in prison and ten years of supervised release for possession of child pornography. As part of the sentence handed down today by U.S. District Court Judge John C. Coughenour, Bowling will be required to register as a sex offender when he is released from prison.

Bowling was indicted September 9, 2005, following an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

According to documents filed in the case, Bowling had nearly 92 single images and 7 movie files on his computer that contained graphic images of children engaged in sexual acts. He admitted to ICE agents that he had sent some of these images to another person over the Internet. In a letter to the court, Bowling expressed remorse and said he understood that he has “contributed to the exploitation of the children who are victims in these photographs.”

“We will use all the resources at our disposal to identify, investigate and prosecute those individuals who attempt to prey on unsuspecting children,” said Leigh Winchell, Seattle ICE Special Agent-in-Charge.

At sentencing Judge Coughenour said, “It troubles me greatly that this material comes into our homes and is so easily available.”

The investigation into Bowling’s activities was part of ICE’s Operation Predator, an ongoing ICE enforcement initiative to identify, investigate, arrest and, in the case of foreign nationals, deport child sex predators. Since the initiative began in July 2003, ICE agents have arrested more than 7,800 individuals nationwide, including more than 100 in the state of Washington.

ICE encourages the reporting of suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. This hotline is staffed around the clock by investigators. Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

# ICE #

